Cleansing by the Word

"Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you."

John 15:3

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

1 Peter 1:23

The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple. Psalm 119:130

My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; ² So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; ³ Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; ⁴ If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; ⁵ Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. ⁶ For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.

Proverbs 2:1-6

He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly. ⁸ He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints. ⁹ Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea, every good path. ¹⁰ When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; ¹¹ Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee.

Proverbs 2:7-11

Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; ... *Proverbs 20:5a*

HBEE

The words of a man's mouth are as deep waters, ... **Proverbs 18:4a**

HBEF

... and the wellspring of wisdom as a flowing brook. *Proverbs 18:4b*

11817

... but a man of understanding will draw it out. *Proverbs 20:5b* HRM

Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill: ² And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes. ³ And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard.⁴ What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes?

Isaiah 5:1-4

I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. ² Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every [branch] that beareth fruit, **he purgeth it**, that it may bring forth more fruit. John 15:1, 2

Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

John 15:8

HREY.

AMERICAN DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE



NOAH WEBSTER 1828

Prune, v.t.

1. To lop or cut off the superfluous branches of trees, to make them bear better fruit or grow higher, or to give them a more handsome and regular appearance. AMERICAN DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE



NOAH WEBSTER 1828

Prune, v.t.

To lop or cut off the superfluous branches of trees, to make them bear better fruit or grow higher, or to give them a more handsome and regular appearance.
 To clear from any thing superfluous; to dress; to trim.

Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. *John 15:3*

HREE

"Education," p. 260.1

It is one thing to treat the Bible as a book of good moral instruction, to be heeded so far as is consistent with the spirit of the times and our position in the world; it is another thing to regard it as it really is – the word of the living God, the word that is our life, the word that is to mold our actions, our words, and our thoughts. **To hold God's word as anything less than this is to reject it.** And this rejection by those who profess to believe it, is foremost among the causes of skepticism and infidelity in the youth.

Ellen G. White

Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give **the sacrifice of fools**: for they consider not that they do evil. Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: **therefore let thy words be few**. For a dream cometh through the multitude of business; and **a fool's voice is known by multitude of words**.

Ecclesiastes 5:1-3

Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

Proverbs 18:21

For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body. . . . **But the tongue can no man tame**; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

James 3:2, 8

O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. ³⁵ A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. ³⁶ But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. ³⁷ For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

Matthew 12:34-37

"R&H," October 1, 1901, par. 8

... The word of God is a character-detector, a motive-tester. We are to read this word with heart and mind open to receive the impressions that God will give. We must not think that the reading of the word can accomplish that which only He whom the word reveals, who stands behind the word, can accomplish. Some are in danger of hastening to the conclusion that because they hold firmly to the doctrines of the truth, they are actually in possession of the blessings which these doctrines declare shall come to the receiver of truth.

"R&H," October 1, 1901, par. 8 [continued]

Many keep the truth in the outer court. Its sacred principles have not a controlling influence over the words, the thoughts, the actions. They do not possess the faith which works by love and purifies the soul. An assent to the truth may quiet the conscience, but let every believer inquire, "Does my faith make me a daily, hourly follower of Christ? Has it a sanctifying influence on my soul?

"R&H," October 1, 1901, par. 8 [concluded]
Can I say, The gentleness of Christ has made me great?" A faultless creed and a carnal life are too often found together in professed believers. To be a means to a saving end, the word of God must be intelligently and practically understood and obeyed.

Ellen G. White

2 Testimonies, chp. 54, pp. 410-411

I appeal to parents to control the reading of their children. Much reading does them only harm. Especially do not permit upon your tables the magazines and newspapers wherein are found love stories. It is impossible for the youth to possess a healthy tone of mind and correct religious principles unless they enjoy the perusal of the word of God. This book contains the most interesting history, points out the way of salvation through Christ, and is their guide to a higher and better life.

2 Testimonies, chp. 54, pp. 410-411

They would all pronounce it the most interesting book they ever perused, if their imagination had not become perverted by exciting stories of a fictitious character. You who are looking for your Lord to come the second time to change your mortal bodies, and to fashion them like unto His most glorious body, must come up upon a higher plane of action. You must work from a higher standpoint than you have hitherto done, or you will not be of that number who will receive the finishing touch of immortality.

Ellen G. White

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Colossians 3:16

1 Testimonies, #12, cp. 86, pp. 509.2, 510.1

God is glorified by songs of praise from a pure heart filled with love and devotion to Him. When consecrated believers assemble, their conversation will not be upon the imperfections of others or savor of murmuring or complaint; charity, or love, the bond of perfectness, will encircle them. Love to God and their fellow men flows out naturally in words of affection, sympathy, and esteem for their brethren. The peace of God rules in their hearts; their words are not vain, empty, and frivolous, but to the comfort and edification of one another.

1 Testimonies, #12, cp. 86, pp. 509.2, 510.1 [continued] If Christians will obey the instructions given to them by Christ and His inspired apostles, they will adorn the religion of the Bible and save themselves severe trials and much perplexity which they attribute to their afflictions in consequence of believing unpopular truth. This is a sad mistake. Very many of their trials are of their own creating because they depart from the word of God. They yield to the world, place themselves upon the enemy's battlefield, and tempt the devil to tempt them.

1 Testimonies, #12, cp. 86, pp. 509.2, 510.1 [continued]

Those who adhere strictly to the admonitions and instructions of God's word, prayerfully seeking to know and do His righteous will, feel not the petty grievances daily occurring. The gratitude which they feel, and the peace of God ruling within, cause them to make melody in their hearts unto the Lord and by words to make mention of the debt of love and thankfulness due the dear Saviour, who so loved them as to die that they might have life. 1 Testimonies, #12, cp. 86, pp. 509.2, 510.1 [concluded] No one who has an indwelling Saviour will dishonor Him before others by producing strains from a musical instrument which call the mind from God and heaven to light and trifling things.

Ellen G. White

